

MINUTES FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
MEETING AND GREEN TEAM MEETING
Tuesday, January 26, 2021 - 7:30 pm – Virtual Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5139948463?pwd=OFFRRkdtTFI0Wm9NTXBRVUxzVEhpZz09>

Passcode: 044462

Dial-in: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 513 994 8463

Passcode: 044462

Members present: John Lippert, Erica Hernandez, Ron Bjorkland, Michael Hartman, Steve Skolnik, Rhema Bjorkland. Jane Young, Josh Hamlin, Xochitl Zamora-Thompson, Larry Hilliard, Matt Dirksen.

Liaisons: Luisa Robles (staff liaison). Colin Byrd (council liaison),

Visitors: Tom Taylor, Kathy Bartholomeo, Bill Orleans, Ben Fischler and Michael Zeliff,

Excused Absences:

Absent: William Manico,

Call to order: 7:45 pm

1. Updates from **Sustainability Framework** / Green Team Circles.

1. **Energy** / Solar Circle – State organization ZEEVIC, Steve got slides from their last meeting. Right now, we don't have someone representing, Steve sent an email to Council to see if they want to nominate a rep. We talked about the slides from Montgomery County.

Standard Solar PPA with the City- monthly check in 2 MW array will offset 90% of the municipal building electricity. Project is moving forward. Developer talking to Pepco, there is capacity. 30% design drawings in April or May.

Food COOP 244kW is ready. Will offset 21%. It is Connected, not switched on yet. Waiting for Pepco to give the green light. Needs bidirectional meter, will happen within 30 days. New roof has R30 insulation, this will help with energy usage.

GHI installing a rooftop and ground-mount almost complete (80%). Also waiting on Pepco 156kW to offset 50% of what the admin building uses.

2. **Food Systems** / Sustainable Land care Circle. Pollinator group will have a meeting soon. Firefly sanctuaries. Girl scouts interested in making bee houses. Some pollinator gardens need TLC.

Erica is doing ivy removal near her house, she and Xochitl wants a sign that says they are doing volunteer work.

3. **Green Building**. Printing and engraving plans. APB meeting on Feb 3. Green ACES should attend and give comments.

4. **Land Use** / Jane also brought up the MagLev

We can also act as individuals <https://mcertcoalition.wixsite.com/website>

Draft EIS is here, along with info on how to submit comments: <https://www.bwmaglev.info/index.php/project-documents/deis>

Bill Orleans asks if APB would get together with Green ACES to coordinate efforts.

Mayors statement on land acknowledgement: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdDMFDAKpoNjezKxJNkuxvIH7MTVRhU9QKJz-FE4VEqcD5qqw/viewform>

I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which I work and live, in particular the Nacotchtank lineage of the Piscataway peoples. I recognize and honor their continuing connection to the soil, water, sky, and community which surround and support me. I pay respect to Elders past, present, and emerging.

5. **Transportation**. We are developing a new group to generate EV infrastructure through the City. Some Green Team members and APB members will be collaborating. Green Team has more freedom to take on tasks not referred by Council. Several people in the group want to participate: Ron, Michael H., Erica (her husband), and Larry.

John talked about another EV group and several also want to participate: Steve S. Michael H. Erica, Larry.

Erica has a golf and she got it at a reduced price. John mentioned Chevy Bolts that are also being sold, used, at a good price.

Michael H. is interested in incentives to purchase EVs.

6. **Local Economies** - Time Bank Circle. Slow during Covid but still doing exchanges. Social planned for valentine's day.

7. **Waste Management** / Zero Waste Circle. Composting legislation. City is supporting HB624 asking large generators to compost excess food/scraps. Encourages food donations. Advocacy is encouraged to support this legislation. In VT when a similar legislation passed, food donations greatly increased. Hearing in the house is tomorrow. There is a form letter people can sign.

8. **Water** / Stream - Stormwater Restoration – 3-5 graders booklet on watersheds that Tom can give away.

Anacostia watershed society working at Indian Creek, Xochitl is working on this doing invasives removal.

Work behind Matts house is still going on. More trash has been noted. Can PW do something about it?

Can we be more proactive and contact Charise Liggins on Economic Development?

2. Events, other

Adjournment: 9:05 pm